Docket No. 03/118

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: James Todhunter
Application No. 10/723,633
Docket No.: 03/118

Examiner: George B. Davis

Art Unit: 2129

) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
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) 22313-1450 on May 24, 2006
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) _L. S. Cohen_
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INTERVIEW SUMMARY

In the telephone interview of 2 May 2006, the participants were, the Examiner, Mr. Cohen and Mr. Todhunter.

Mr. Todhunter explained that the present invention differs from the Pustejovsky reference because in Pustejovsky the query is formed by the user and submitted; whereas in the present invention as in claim 1, the problem is automatically reformulated by the computer system software, and submitted.

Mr. Todhunter explained how a functional analysis tool operates to provide problem identification and then how the problem is reformulated as a natural language query.

It was observed that the Examiner's citation Pustejovsky at paragraph 30 refers to natural language processing and that at paragraph 25 refers to the "user's query" and at paragraph 40 "The query is made by the user input device, e.g. electronic pen, keyboard, microphone, etc." and that "the query is provided in textual form, which is entered" and "the textual query is sent to the language system". This is also confirmed in paragraph 41 where the user inputs the query by a microphone.

The conclusion was that nowhere does Pustejovsky teach or suggest automatic reformatting of a problem identification into a natural language query.

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